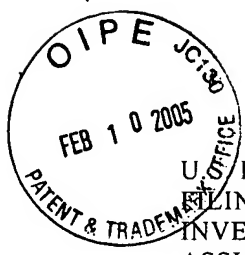


FTW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. .... 10/791,097  
FILING DATE ..... 2 March 2004  
INVENTORS ..... John Avi Roop et al.  
ASSIGNEE ..... St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico, B.V.  
GROUP ART UNIT ..... 3731  
EXAMINER ..... Bradford C. Pantuck  
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. .... 47563.0006  
TITLE ..... "Three-Needle Closure Device"

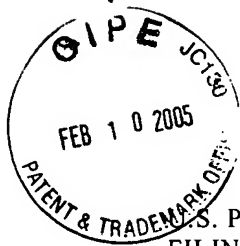
**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: L. Grant Foster  
HOLLAND & HART LLP  
555 - 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3200  
P.O. Box 8749  
Denver, Colorado 80201  
Telephone: (801) 595-7830  
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

In response to the Office Action dated 11 January 2005, applicant elects to prosecute the invention of Group 1 (claims 1-12). Applicant therefore withdraws, without prejudice, claims 13-18.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.



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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

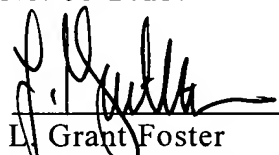
From: L. Grant Foster  
HOLLAND & HART LLP  
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P.O. Box 8749  
Denver, Colorado 80201  
Telephone: (801) 595-7830  
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

Enclosed are the items listed below submitted regarding the matter identified above:

1. Transmittal Letter with Certificate of Mailing included
2. PTO Return Postcard Receipt
3. Response to Office Action

**Deposit Account Authorization** - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any applicable fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2623.

Date: 7 FEBRUARY 2005


By:   
L. Grant Foster  
Reg. No. 33,236

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as either first class mail or Express Mail, if the blank for Express Mail No. is completed below, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.

**Express Mail No.**

Date: 7 February 2005

Signature:   
Name: Kathy Case